

REMARKS

I. Status Of The Claims

Claims 1-55 are pending in this Application.

Claims 13-18 are allowed.

Claims 28-32 and 42 are objected to.

Claims 19-27, 54, and 55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hwang (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0107985).

Claims 1-4 and 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hammerstad (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0111855) in view of Hwang.

Claims 5, 6, 11, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hammerstad in view of Hwang and Schwartz (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0016656).

Claims 33-41 and 45-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hwang in view of Demello (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0036224).

Claims 43 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hwang in view of Demello and Hutcheson (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0032409).

Claims 50-53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kirby (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0151294) in view of Schwartz.

Claims 1, 13, 19, 33, 50, 52, and 54 are independent.

With this response claims 20-23, 25, 27, 28, 34-42, 45, 46, 48, and 49 are amended, and claims 1-12, 19, 24, 26, 33, 43, 44, and 50-55 are cancelled without prejudice or

disclaimer.

II. Cancellations and Amendments

The Office Action indicates that claims 13-18 are allowed, and that claims 28-32 and 42 are objected to. With this response, Applicants have rewritten claims 28 and 42 in independent form, and respectfully submit that 28-32 and 42 are in condition for allowance.

Applicants further submit that claims 20-23, 25, and 27, which by way of amendment herewith depend from claim 28, are in condition for allowance. Moreover, Applicants submit that claims 34-41 and 45-49, which by way of amendment herewith depend from claim 42, are in condition for allowance.

Also with this response, claims 1-12, 19, 24, 26, 33, 43, 44, and 50-55 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and amendments have been made to correct typographical errors.

Claims rejected by the office action will be pursued in a continuation application.

In light of this response, Applicants respectfully request that this application be passed to issue.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that this Application is in condition for allowance for which action is earnestly solicited.

If a telephone conference would facilitate prosecution of this Application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

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AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No.

4208-4022. **A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.**

Furthermore, in the event that an extension of time is required, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to the above-noted Deposit Account and Order No.

Respectfully submitted,

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